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US Army Corps of Engineers ®
Portland District

Hills Creek Lake, Oregon

TO ENJOY A SAFE OUTING OBSERVE THESE SAFETY TIPS

BOATING
Wear a personal flotation device (PFD), and observe posted boating speeds at all times.

WATER SKIING
Have two people in the tow boat, one to drive and one to watch the skier. Avoid skiing near swimmers and fishermen. ALWAYS wear a life jacket when skiing and NEVER ski after dusk.

FISHING
Stay clear of boat channels and swimming areas. While trolling, watch the water ahead for boats, swimmers and underwater obstacles.

SWIMMING
Use the buddy system. Swim only in posted swimming areas away from docks and boating areas.

UNDERWATER HAZARDS
Floating logs, submerged stumps and rocks are present in the lake. Be especially watchful for obstructions near the shoreline.

SMALL CRAFT WARNINGS
Dangerous waves can build up suddenly. Stay out of open waters when winds become threatening.

SEAPLANE INSTRUCTIONS
Please exercise caution - heavy boat traffic may be encountered when landing on the lake. Refer to *Seaplane Operations at Corps Lakes* **for specific regulations.**

FIRE PREVENTION
The fire potential is generally high during the recreation season. Help prevent forest fires by putting out camp fires completely and disposing of all refuse in trash cans. Build fires only in designated fire rings.

Under the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, it is illegal to excavate or remove artifacts from federal land. Violators are subject to a fine of not more than $100,000, imprisonment of not more than five years, and forfeiture of all equipment (including vehicles) used in connection with a violation.

Federal rules and regulations concerning the use of areas are set forth in Title 36, Chaper III of the Code of Federal Regulations and are on display in the areas of the project most frequently used by the public.

Hills Creek Lake, located 45 miles southeast of Eugene, is operated by the Corps of Engineers as part of a system of thirteen multi-purpose dams and reservoirs that make up the Willamette Valley Project. These dams and reservoirs work together for the purposes of flood damage reduction, hydropower genertion, irrmgation, recreation, fish and wildlife enhancement, and downstream water quality improvement within the Willamette River drainage system.

Dam Operations
Hills Creek Dam is an earthfill structure with a gated concrete spillway and outlet works for regulating lake levels. The dam was completed in 1961 at a cost of $46 million. Since then, it has prevented more than $3.2 billion in potential flood damages. During flood season, the dams hold back water to regulate downstream flows. During summer and fall, the cool, clean water that is slowly released from the dams improves downstream water quality.

Recreation
The scenic 2,735 acre lake with its 44 miles of forested shoreline provide many recreation opportunities including camping, boating, swimming, fishing, and water skiing. All recreation facilities are within the Willamette National Forest and are operated by the U.S. Forest Service Middle Fork Ranger District, 541-782-2283.

Fish and Wildlife
Below Hills Creek Dam, the Corps developed a 130-acre wildlife and wetland area which has open fields, riverside habitat, turtle ponds, and beaver dams. Water is diverted into a perennial stream to provide fresh water to the wetland area.

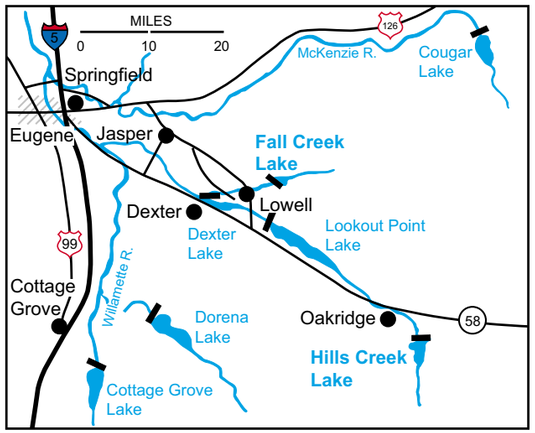
To mitigate impacts to salmon and steelhead caused by dams on the Middle Fork of the Willamette River, the Corps of Engineers built the Willamette Fish Hatchery near Oakridge. The hatchery is operated by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, with funds provided by the Corps and the State of Oregon.

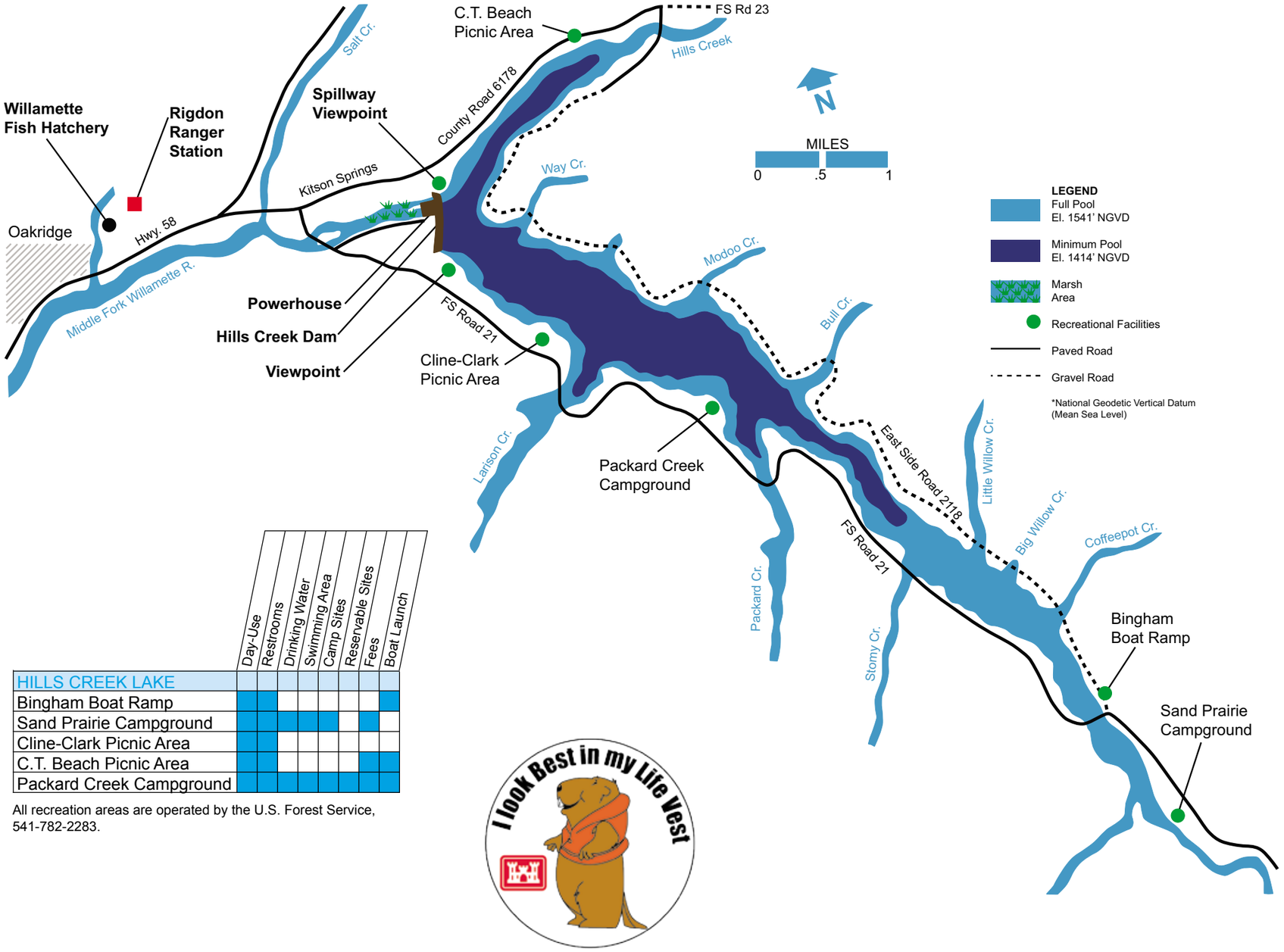
Project Data

Hills Creek Lake

	Measure	Metric
Dam		
Length	2,235 ft	681.23 m
Height	304 ft	92.66 m
Elevation (NGVD*)	1,548 ft	471.83 m
Total kilowatt capacity	30,000 kw	
Lake		
Length	7.6 mi	4.72 km
Area when full	2,735 ac	1,106.79 ha

** NGVD National Geodetic Vertical Datum (Mean Sea Level)*





HILLS CREEK LAKE	Day-Use	Restrooms	Drinking Water	Swimming Area	Camp Sites	Reservable Sites	Fees	Boat Launch
Bingham Boat Ramp	■	■						■
Sand Prairie Campground	■	■	■	■	■		■	
Cline-Clark Picnic Area	■	■						
C.T. Beach Picnic Area	■	■					■	■
Packard Creek Campground	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

All recreation areas are operated by the U.S. Forest Service,
541-782-2283.